

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 283134

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UNESCO, AORG, PORT

SUBJECT: UNESCO - 19TH GENERAL CONFERENCE - MASS MEDIA:
TUNISIAN RESOLUTION; NORWEGIAN ALTERNATE
DECLARATION TEXT

REF: (A) NAIROBI 12771, (B) NAIROBI 12808, (C) NAIROBI
12806, (D) WARVARIV-MAXIM TELCON NOVEMBER 17

1. DEL SHOULD VOTE FOR TUNISIAN RESOLUTION ON MASS MEDIA
IN REFS A AND B. DEL SHOULD CONTINUE EFFORTS TO
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SUBSTITUTE "CONSEQUENCES" FOR "DANGERS" PARA 3, REF B.

2. DEL SHOULD MAKE EXPLANATION OF VOTE WHICH INCLUDES FOLLOWING POINTS: (A) STARTING FROM ITEM 1 IN OPERATIVE PARA 1 (REFERENCE TO NON-ALIGNED MEETINGS' RECOMMENDATIONS) BUT COVERING RESOLUTION AS A WHOLE, DEL SHOULD SAY THAT USG HAS NOTED FOCUS IN THESE MEETINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS ON SPECIFIC PROJECTS TO ASSIST LDCS IN IMPROVING THEIR MASS MEDIA EXPERTISE AND TECHNOLOGY SO AS TO MAKE THEIR VOICES MORE EFFECTIVELY HEARD AS A VALUABLE ADDITION TO THE FREE INTERNATIONAL FLOW OF NEWS. USG IS PLEASED TO SUPPORT RESOLUTION WHOSE CLEAR PURPOSE IS TO FURTHER THESE PRACTICAL OBJECTIVES -- MAINLY BY MEANS OF

APPROPRIATE AND IMPORTANT STUDIES. (B) ON PARA 3 FOLLOWING "CONSEQUENTLY" IN OPERATIVE SECTION, DEL SHOULD SAY THAT USG DOES NOT ACCEPT IMPLICATION WHICH MIGHT BE DRAWN FROM THIS PARA THAT THERE IS A CLEAR DIVISION OF VIEW BETWEEN DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES ON THE PRESENT EFFECT OF MASS MEDIA ON THE POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, AND CULTURAL SOVEREIGNTY OF THE LDCS. INSTEAD, IT IS CLEAR TO US THAT THIS IS AN ISSUE ON WHICH WIDELY VARYING OPINIONS ARE HELD IN DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. USG DOES, HOWEVER, BELIEVE THAT THE RELATION OF MASS MEDIA ACTIVITIES TO DEVELOPMENT IS AN APPROPRIATE ONE FOR UNESCO TO EXAMINE, BEARING IN MIND THE CONSIDERABLE STUDY THAT HAS ALREADY BEEN DONE ON THIS QUESTION IN MANY COUNTRIES AND ORGANIZATIONS.

3. DEL WILL RECALL THAT TUNISIAN RES IS IMPORTANT TO OUR STRATEGY ON MASS MEDIA DECLARATION. IN DEBATES AND DISCUSSIONS ON MASS MEDIA DECLARATION, DEL SHOULD NOTE OUR SUPPORT FOR TUNISIAN RESOLUTION AND SAY THAT, THROUGH THIS RESOLUTION, UNESCO WILL BEGIN TO MEET MOST PRESSING IMMEDIATE MASS MEDIA NEEDS OF LDCS AS DEFINED BY THEMSELVES. CONSEQUENTLY, UNESCO HAS TAKEN NECESSARY IMMEDIATE ACTION ON MASS MEDIA, AND DRAFT DECLARATION CAN BE DEFERRED FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION WHICH IT REQUIRES. THIS ARGUMENT SHOULD BE USED PARTICULARLY IN SEEKING SUPPORT OF LDCS FOR DEFERRAL OF MASS MEDIA DECLARATION.

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4. DEPARTMENT UNDERSTANDS PER REF (D) THAT: (A) NORWEGIAN DRAFT ALTERNATIVE MASS MEDIA TEXT (REF C) IS NOT RPT NOT TO BE FORMALLY ENTERED AND WILL BE USED ONLY AS FURTHER EVIDENCE OF WIDE DIVERGENCE OF VIEWS IN UNESCO MEMBERSHIP ON DRAFT DECLARATION QUESTION, AND, (B) THAT DEL CONSIDERS THAT USE OF OUR ALTERNATIVE TEXT IN A BLOCKING MOVE IS NEITHER FEASIBLE NOR NECESSARY AT THIS STAGE. IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, DEL SHOULD

CONTINUE EFFORTS TO KEEP DISCUSSIONS IN DNG AND ITS
WORKING GROUP GENERAL, AND FOCUSSED ON COMPLEXITIES OF
ISSUES OF PRINCIPLE AND PHILOSOPHY WHICH REQUIRE FURTHER
ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION BY EXPERTS NOT POSSIBLE IN THE
SHORT TIME AND UNDER THE PRESSURES OF THE GC. DEL SHOULD
NOT RPT NOT BE DRAWN INTO DEBATE OF PRECISE LANGUAGE OR
PROVISIONS OF ANY RPT ANY PARTICULAR TEXT OF DECLARATION.
DEL SHOULD MAKE MAXIMUM EFFORT AVOID AGREEMENT ON ANY
PART OF ANY PROPOSED TEXT SINCE THIS WOULD LIMIT SCOPE OF
SUBSEQUENT FURTHER EXPERTS' MEETING ON MASS MEDIA
DECLARATION. SUCH MEETING SHOULD BE FREE TO DISCUSS FULL
RANGE OF ISSUES RELATING TO THIS QUESTION. KISSINGER

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